

**From:** Laura Downs <Laura.Downs@naturespaceuk.com>  
**Sent:** 12 February 2026 14:04:47 UTC+00:00  
**To:** "Hannah.Darley" <Hannah.Darley@horsham.gov.uk>  
**Cc:** "Planning" <planning@horsham.gov.uk>  
**Subject:** NatureSpace Consultation- DC/25/1531 | Haynes Littleworth Lane Partridge Green West Sussex RH13 8JF  
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**Categories:** Consultations

Good afternoon Hannah,

**Planning reference: DC/25/1531 | Haynes Littleworth Lane Partridge Green West Sussex RH13 8JF**

Thank you for consulting me on the above planning application. The applicant had provided an ecological report in the form of - *Preliminary Ecological Appraisal, Haynes, Partridge Green, Horsham, West Sussex, RH13 8JF, Arun Ecology, June 2025*, which states:

- *"One pond was recorded within 0.25km of the development boundary. Arun Ecology Ltd conducted a GCN eDNA survey on this pond in May 2024 (as part of a separate development) and the result was negative, indicating that GCN were likely absent from this pond at the time of survey"*
- *"Two further ponds were recorded within 0.5km of the development boundary"*
- *"No breeding habitat was recorded within the development boundary. The habitat within the development boundary includes a native hedgerow and line of trees that broadly provides suitable terrestrial habitat (resting places) for GCN. The majority of the habitat within the main footprint of the development consists of modified grassland which provides sub-optimal habitat as a permanent resting place for GCN due to having insufficient cover that is characterised by the short sward height and regular management."*
- *"Based on the above points, particularly the negative eDNA result of the only pond within 250m, it is reasonably unlikely that GCN could be encountered within the development boundary"*
- *"A precautionary method of works for GCN should be followed during the construction phase of the development. The following mitigation measures should be followed:"*
- Precautionary measures for great crested newts are outlined in section 6.5.8 of the report

The above report has identified that there is only one pond located within 250m (west) of the development boundary, however according to mapping data there seems to be two further ponds located approximately 150m south-east which have not been assessed. Despite this, given the low suitability of the proposed impacted habitat and small scale of this development,

we are satisfied with the approach provided and therefore recommend the use of a compliance condition to secure the measures outlined within the report.

If the applicant wishes to completely avoid any risks relating to great crested newts, they have the option to enquire for Horsham Council's District Licence, which provides full legal cover for any impacts to great crested newts and therefore removes the risk of having to stop works if great crested newts are found on site. More details on the District Licensing Scheme operated by the council can be found at [www.naturespaceuk.com](http://www.naturespaceuk.com).

Best wishes,

Laura Downs (*she/her*)

District Licensing Officer (Great Crested Newts) – West Sussex

### **NatureSpace Partnership**

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